

Theology vol 61.

A
Faithful Warning,
TO THE
Inhabitants
OF
Great-Britain
AND
IRELAND,

To Dread the LORD, and Turn from
their Evil Doings, before his FURY
break forth upon them, as an Over-
flowing SCOURGE.

Given forth in Obedience to the Lord, by
JOHN BARCROFT.

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Practical Mechanics

TO THE

Inhabitants

OF

Great-Britain

AND

IRELAND.

To Direct the
their FIELD
practical knowledge as an
George



JOHN TAYLOR
LONDON

Printed and Sold by
by the Author of the
George

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THE Almighty GOD of Heaven and Earth hath long strove with these Nations, in Mercy and Loving-kindness, in order to Reclaim us from those Evils, which greatly abound therein; but instead of being humbled by his Manifold Mercies plentifully bestowed upon us, many have Exalted themselves, under a Profession of Christianity, and forgot the Lord; having a name

to Live, but wanting *True Life* and *Rest* to their Souls. Also, too many of the Teachers, have both by Example and Doctrine Indulged them in a Liberty Pleasing to the Flesh, whereby the *Strait Gate* and *Narrow Way*, spoken of by our Blessed SAVIOUR, *Matt. 7. 13.* and *His CROSS* mentioned by the Apostle *P. AUL*, *Galat. 6. 14.* which *Crucifies to the World*, have been much neglected, and the *Broad-Way*, which leads to *Destruction* and *Eternal Misery*, walked in pleasantly by many: And so the Fruits of Christianity in Life and Conversation have been, and are greatly wanting. I could say more upon this Subject, but am willing only in Brevity to Clear my Conscience in the sight of God.

IN the Year, 1688. a Dark Cloud appeared over the Nations, and the Sword threatned, which also fell heavy on some parts of EUROPE, but the Lord was pleased to spare the Nation of ENGLAND, which should have caused her Inhabitants to be greatly Humbled, and Bowed in Thankfulness unto Him, the LORD GOD of Heaven and Earth, who Gives and Changes the Kingdoms of Men as he pleaseth. And ye have had a long Space to Repent and Amend your Ways, but have not laid it to Heart to give Glory to God, who hath been so Gracious unto you; but instead of bearing the Mark of True Christians in Meekness, and Love one to another,
a Bit-

a Bitter Spirit of HATRED and PRIDE hath Predominated, which hath highly provoked the Lord to Anger, so that his Wrath is great against thy Inhabitants, Oh ENGLAND! to be speedily Executed, if there be not Repentance and Amendment of your Ways and Doings; for I being at London, in the Year, 1718, was then made fully sensible, that the destroying Angel (of the Lord) was nigh to Execute Judgment upon thine Inhabitants, and particularly that great City of London.

A N D now also I find a Concern upon my Heart unto the Inhabitants of this Nation of *Ireland*, wherein I dwell, to put them in remembrance of the Lord's Providences unto us, who were sensible of the Destruction by Fire and Sword, mostly in the Years, 1689, and 1690. whereby in divers places, Many Houses and Stately Buildings were laid in Ashes; the Young Men slain with the Sword, and the Mighty fell in Battle.

BUT Oh! then the *Protestants* of all Denominations, were Humbled before the Lord and so united in Love and Affection one to another, that I did not think of Living to see so much *Hatred* and *Bitterness* as since hath been, and yet continues amongst them, which hath been, and is the Cause of Deep Sorrow to my Soul in secret before the Lord, being often seized with great Fear and Terror concerning what is like to be the

Event thereof, unto those who have seen and forgotten such Great and Eminent Providences and Deliverances of the Lord; and broken the Solemn Promises and Covenants, which I doubt not many have entred into, with the **MOST HIGH**, that if he would graciously spare, and be Merciful unto them, they would break off their Sins by Repentance, and Serve him according to the Gift of his Grace bestowed upon them; but on the contrary, rush into **PRIDE, IDLENESS, COVETOUSNESS, OPPRESSION, HATRED, LYING and HYPOCRISY**, and those Crying Sins that greatly abound in the Nation, as **PROFANE SWEARING, CURSING, DRUNKENNESS and DEBAUCHERY**, (against which, there have been Good and Wholsome Laws made, were they duly Executed) so that now the Measure of the Sins of many seem to be full, and therefore I believe the Lord will surely visit speedily, with a Great and Heavy Scourge, if not prevented by Repentance.

And further, when the late Rebellion and War brake forth in *Great-Britain*, threatening Desolation; Oh! what Fears surprized many, both there and here, concerning the Event thereof: And I believe the Lord heard the strong Cries, and humble Petitions of such, who (like King *David*, having seen the Destruction of War) Besought the *Most High*, that we might fall into his Merciful Hands, rather

ther than into the Hands of Unreasonable Men: And Behold! he was Graciously Pleas'd in an Eminent manner to call back the Sword, and Disappoint those, who seem'd likely to have been the *Rod of his Wrath*.

A N D now, we have heard that the Plague Rages in some parts of *France*, whereby many Thousands have been suddenly taken away, and yet the Report thereof seems not to Humble us, so deeply as we ought; for which cause, at times my Soul hath been exceedingly Sorrowful, and Afflicted Night and Day: The Lord having been pleas'd to shew me, that the *Stroke of Mortality is near at hand*. And whereas his Mercies and Gentle Dealings have not Humbled the Nations, his Judgments will be Terrible to the Workers of Iniquity, and I see no way to Divert the Impending Judgments of an Offended GOD, but such Fasting as the Lord spake of by his Prophet *Isaiah*, Chap. 58. vers. 6, 7. *Is not this the Fast that I have chosen? to loose the Bands of Wickedness, to undo the heavy Burthens, and to let the Oppressed go free, and that ye break every Yoke. Is it not to deal thy Bread to the Hungry? and that thou bring the Poor that are cast out, to thy House? When thou seest the Naked, that thou cover him? and that thou hide not thy self from thine own Flesh?* And Crying mightily unto God, as the *Ninivites* did, *Jon. 3. 8.* from the KING to the meanest of his Subjects, and if all turn from
the

the Evil of their Ways, I have some Hope the Lord's Anger may thereby be appeased, and our Tranquility lengthned, and I am persuaded as the Apostle declared, *Acts 10. 34, 35, that in every Nation, he that feareth God, and worketh Righteousness, is accepted with him, and that it will be well with them.*

[illegible]

TO THE
People called QUAKERS.

Dear Friends and Brethren,

I HAVE been in Deep Affliction of Soul and Spirit before the Lord, because of his *Judgments*, that are like to break forth *Speedily*, if there be not Great *Humiliation* and *Imploring* him to grant unto the Nations a little longer time of Mercy ; for We (as well as Others) have been too deeply concerned in offending our Gracious and Long-suffering GOD. Wherefore I fervently Entreat and Beseech you every where to lay it to Heart. And that as the Lord hath been pleased to Reveal and make Known his *Light* and *Truth* unto us in our Hearts ; we may be Obedient thereunto in a Self-denying Life, as the Followers of JESUS, according to our Holy Profession, but too Many, not having practised what they have known to be their Duty, have greatly afflicted many, both In this Nation and Elsewhere.

AND my Friends, the Lord hath not only often reprov'd us by his *Holy Spirit*,
and

and *Grace* in our own Hearts, in order that we should turn from every Evil Way; but also hath raised up, and concerned his Servants, to call unto All under our Profession for *Humiliation*, and to let our *Moderation* appear unto all Men, as the Apostle advised the Primitive Christians (for the Lord is at hand) he hath also raised up **PROPHETS** amongst us, who have foretold of the late Wars, before they came to pass, and others since, to give Notice of a *Great Mortality* approaching, with Warning to *Prepare to meet the Lord, in the Way of his Righteous Judgments, and flee the Evil and Entanglements of this World*: But Oh! how many have grown *High-minded*, and sat down at *Ease* in their Outward Enjoyments, and others made *haste to be Rich*, whereby they have fallen into *Temptation and a Snare, and into many Foolish and Huriful Lusts, which drown Men in Destruction and Perdition*, 1 Tim. 6. 9. So that I may say, too many have been as the *Deaf Adder that will not hear*; wherefore I am also now to warn you, my Dear Friends, *to prepare to meet the Lord our God*, for his Anger burns hot, and he hath shewed me in his *Light*, That he is about to bring a **TERRIBLE DAY** upon these Nations, because they have rejected his Reproof; and turned his Law behind their Backs. And I see nothing that will appease his Wrath, but true Humiliation and Fasting, with **STRONG** and **FERVENT** Cries unto him. I am also persuaded

swaded the STROKE of MORTALITY might have been given before now, had not the Sincere Cries of many (to stay his Hand) prevailed with Him, that lives for Ever and Ever.

A N D Dear Friends, I would have us of this Nation retain a Thankful Remembrance of the Great and Eminent Deliverances of the Lord, wrought for us, infomuch that very Few of us fell in time of the said War, but were supported through many Difficulties, tho' we diligently kept up our Meetings for the Worship of Almighty God, *often in Peril of our Lives*: under an humble Sense whereof, at our next ensuing National Meeting, our Hearts were filled with Thanksgiving and our Eyes with Tears of Joy.

A N D whereas the Prophet *Ezekiel* in the Vision concerning *Jerusalem*, saw one sent with a *Writers Inkhorn* by his Side to put a Mark upon such, as Sigh and Cried for the Abominations, that were committed, so now such will be happy in that Day, come Life or Death. And *after this Cloud shall pass over, the Lord will raise up and send many Ministers of his Word of Life, to publish the Gospel of Peace and Salvation unto the Nations abroad, to the Hazard, or laying down of their Lives for the Testimony of JESUS.*

THESE

THESE things have been hard for me to write, knowing it may meet with many Censures; but the WORD of the LORD burnt as a Fire in me, that I could not be Silent, nor find Ease, until I gave up thereunto: So leaving the Issue to the Lord, desiring it may have a good Effect,

I subscribe, as I am a Lover of the Souls of all Men,

John Barcroft.

Dublin 13th of 9th
Month, 1720.



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